Public Workshop on the Control of Salt and Boron Discharges to the Lower San Joaquin River

Central Valley RWQCB

San Joaquin River TMDL Unit

29 April 2004

Workshop Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions (30 min)
2. Presentation of Alternate Approaches (1hr 30min)
3. Break Out Session (30 min)
4. Lunch (1hr 15 min)
5. Break Out Sessions Continue Or Reconvene (1hr 45 min)
6. Next Steps (15 min)
7. Adjourn

Workshop Ground Rules

- Commit to Being Fully Present
  - Ask for what you need from others to participate fully
- Honor Our Time Limits
  - Keep comments and discussion concise
  - Stay focused on the topic – Use the parking lot for other issues
- Respect Each Other
  - Listen carefully to other participants
  - Respond to ideas and issues, not individuals
- Support Constructive Discussion
  - Suggest improvements and solutions
  - Build on others' ideas – Use "and" instead of "but"

Workshop Goals

Identify, evaluate, and build on alternate approaches to the control program that:

1. **satisfy Regional Board requirements**
2. **better meet stakeholder needs**
3. **more comprehensively address the salinity issue**

TMDL/Basin Plan Timeline

December 2003	• Regional Board Workshop
January 2004	• Regional Board Workshop • Comments Received
February-April 2004	• Interest Group Meetings • Workshop
May – June 2004	• Work with stakeholders • Respond to comments • Revise staff report
July 2004	• Regional Board Consideration

Challenges Identified

- Salinity problem caused by multiple factors but TMDL only addresses discharges
- Alternate solutions may not have support of all stakeholders
- Upstream water quality objectives needed

Common Ground Identified

- Salinity in the San Joaquin River is a problem that needs to be addressed
  - Very complex, interrelated with other problems, with multiple natural and man-made causes
- The Regional Board's identification of sources is generally accurate
  - Concerns remain about the equity of the actions to address these sources
- Comprehensive solution, with participation of multiple agencies and interests, is likely to result in greater improvements
  - Framework is needed to ensure forward progress

Alternate Approaches

Alternate Approach - Two Elements

1) Interest-Based Solution

- Goals
- Actions
- Time Schedules

2) Regulatory Backstop

- Load Allocations
- WDRs/Waivers
- Prohibition
- Time Schedules

Principles to Guide Development of Alternate Approaches

1. Meet Water Quality Objectives
2. Equitable Allocation of Responsibility
3. Export Salts
4. Clear Rules
5. Provide Assurances
6. Adaptive to Future Water Quality Objectives

Presentations, Questions & Discussion

- Presentations
  - Provide a brief overview of proposed enhancement or alternative
    - » Actions to meet Water Quality Objective
    - » Implementation Strategy & Timing
- Questions
  - Clarifying questions only
- Discussion
  - Breakout groups for people to work together on improvements and refinements

Proposal Presentations

Breakout Groups

- Four Groups
  - Two Focused on Actions
    - » Flows & Timing – Diamonds
    - » Load Reduction – Spades
  - Two Focused on Implementation Planning
    - » Roles and Responsibilities – Hearts
    - » Assurances – Clubs

Breakout Group Assignment

- Identify the Goals and Objectives for Your Topic
  - e.g., What is our goal for salt load reductions
- Identify the Actions to Accomplish the Goals and Objectives
  - Improved understanding, pilot projects, studies, funding, implementation, etc.
- Identify Implementation Strategy
  - Milestones, Schedule, Roles, Measures of Progress, Assurances